Meeting of the Pennsylvania Governor's Invasive Species Council (PGISC)
Thursday, December 11, 2025 | 10:00am (virtual)

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Attendance

Council Members, Designees, & Alternates Present	
State Agencies	
PA Department of Agriculture (PDA)	Chris Davis
PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (PA DCNR)	Rosa Yoo, Andrew Rohrbaugh
PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP)	Jim Grazio
PA Department of Transportation (PennDOT)	Ray Boronyak
PA Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC)	Sean Hartzell
PA Game Commission (PGC)	*Not present*
Non-Governmental Organizations	
County Governments	*Not present*
PA Association of Conservation Districts (PACD)	*Not present*
PA Farm Bureau (PFB)	Grant Gulibon
PA Lake Management Society (PALMS)	Kate Harms
PA Landscape & Nursery Association (PLNA)	Gregg Robertson
PA Sea Grant (PASG)	Sara Stahlman
PA State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS)	Brian Harris
Penn State University (PSU)	Deah Lieurance
PennAg Industries Association (PennAg)	*Not present*
Temple University (TU)	Jocelyn Behm
University of Pennsylvania (UPenn)	Lisa Murphy
Western PA Conservancy (WPC)	Jeff Wagner, Amy Jewitt
Total Members, Designees, & Alternates Present	16

Members/Designees/Alternates Not in Attendance: Andrew Ernst (PFB), Betsy Schroeder (PA DOH), Brian Pilarcik (PALMS), Harold Brecht (PennAg), Jeff Thomas (County Governments), Katie Sasala (APIPMA), Luke Crawford (PennDOT), Piper Sherburne (PACD), Sarah Whitney (PASG), Scott Bearer (PGC), Sean Mahoney (PhilaPort)

Other Participants Present: (36) - Ali Bowling, Amber Stilwell, Angela Spagnoli, April Moore, Beth Sassaman, Brant Portner, Brian Daggs, Brian Gallagher, Bryon Ruhl, Celine Colbert, Douglas Wolfgang, Ekaterina Nikolaeva, Emilee Boyer Euker, Eve Adrian, Felicia Lamphere, Frank Schneider, Hannah Huber, Jennifer Senchak, Jill Zdunczyk, Johnny Zook, Katie Brooks, Kierstin Carlson, Kris Abell, Kyle Schutt, Kylie Wirebach, Maggie Wallner, Marie Maiuro, Mary Walsh, Michael Hutchinson, Misty Matesig, Molly Burns, Nick Decker, Nick Trivelli, Sarah Gettys, Shane Phillips, Shayna Seeley

In total, 52 individuals (including both members and non-members) are present for today's meeting.

Welcome/Introductory Remarks, Roll Call, & Approval of Minutes

Chris Davis (PDA) welcomed everyone to today's meeting. He highlighted three points that will be covered during today's meeting, including the making of the updated PA Invasive Species Management Plan, moving the Plan into an operational phase, and Council members highlighting current and recent projects focused on invasive species.

Chris thanked those that shared insight as part of discussions that led to such a large and complete (updated) Invasive Species Management Plan for Pennsylvania. This was a huge undertaking. During today's meeting, we will allot time to reflect on different parts of the plan just as we did at the last Council meeting (via breakout groups). It's extremely important that we do this to ensure the written plan can be implemented fully and operational as the Council envisions. During today's meeting, let's consider what the deliverables are that should come from the plan such opportunities for education, funding, or work focused on a specific species.

Chris encouraged all Council members from state agencies and non-governmental organizations to provide reports on their current activities related to invasive species for the benefit of sharing with others present today. Our value comes because of the partnerships that we can make through membership with the Council. Chris also suggested that individuals ask for help and partner with other groups as needed, as this can be a big benefit of Council membership.

Chris conducted the roll call. A quorum is present for today's meeting.

MOTION: Brian Harris (PSATS) moved to approve the September 9, 2025 PGISC meeting minutes. Gregg Robertson (PLNA) seconded the motion. **Motion approved.**

Agency and Organization Updates, Activities, & Events

Speaker: Kris Abell, PA Governor's Invasive Species Council Coordinator, PA Department of Agriculture (krabell@pa.gov)

Membership Update

Kris Abell (PDA) remarked on a change in Council membership with the addition of Ray Boronyak, PennDOT Roadside Manager, representing the PA Department of Transportation. Ray is replacing Joe Demko, former PennDOT representative on the Council. Ray remarked that he's been with PennDOT's roadside vegetation management programs for 18 years and took over as Roadside Manager for PennDOT's Bureau of Operations (central office) in November 2025. Ray said that Joe Demko retired about 14 months ago.

2026 Council Meeting Schedule

Kris highlighted the Council's upcoming meeting schedule for 2026. All meetings will be virtual:

- March 19
- June 11
- September 17
- December 10

The 2026 meetings are virtual to better accommodate the new break out groups that the Council is hosting to facilitate implementation of the recommendations listed in the PA Invasive Species Management Plan. If Council members would like some meetings to be hybrid or in-person, we can explore those options. Reach out to Kris to discuss.

Agency & Organization Updates

Kris remarked that a major purpose of the Council is to coordinate communication between agencies and organizations. Council meetings provide a great opportunity to share information, make connections, and collaborate.

Agency/organization updates were provided by Frank Schneider (PDA), Ray Boronyak (PennDOT), Sean Hartzell (PFBC), Andrew Rohrbaugh (DCNR), Rosa Yoo (DCNR), Brian Harris (PSATS), Amy Jewitt (WPC), Celine Colbert (DCNR), and Michael Hutchinson (PDA).

Summary: Frank Schneider (PDA) provided an update on outcomes from the recent PA Controlled Plant and Noxious Weed Committee meeting held on October 23, 2025.

Presenting at the CP&NWC meeting were Andrew Rohrbaugh (DCNR) and Sean Hartzell (PFBC). The committee discussed several plants and their proposed inclusion on the state's noxious weed list. Species considered included:

- Leatherleaf mahonia (*Mahonia bealei*)
- Japanese spiraea (*Spiraea japonica*)
- Cork tree species (*Phellodendron* spp.)
- Princess tree (*Paulownia tomentosa*)
- Silver grass species (*Miscanthus* spp.)
- Pink lotus (*Nelumbo nucifera*)

For each of the above-listed species, the CP&NWC voted to NOT add them to the PA noxious weed list.

Additionally, the committee voted yes to recategorizing hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*) as a Class B noxious weed (instead of a Class A noxious weed). This change will become official on January 12, 2026 when the PA Bulletin will be published. The CP&NWC's next meeting will take place on April 23, 2026.

Summary: Ray Boronyak (PennDOT) mentioned an upcoming agency-wide meeting of the PA Department of Transportation and the group's interest in having representatives from PGISC and DCNR participate and share information on invasive species.

PennDOT has its 11 districts get together twice a year. Their next meeting will occur in January 2026. PennDOT would welcome Kris Abell (PDA) to come and give updates to their group about anything new with PA invasive species efforts and the Council. The group would also welcome Andrew Rohrbaugh (DCNR) to participate and help facilitate a discussion about invasive species. The hope is to have more folks from PennDOT looking for and identifying invasive plants in the agency's 11 districts (i.e., species that are a concern for Pennsylvania).

Summary: Sean Hartzell (PFBC) announced that PFBC documented a population of the invasive red swamp crayfish for the first time in the Susquehanna River Basin, specifically at a pond in Montoursville, PA (Lycoming County), significant finding in the state.

A population of invasive red swamp crayfish (*Procambarus clarkii*) was documented by PFBC for the first time in the Susquehanna River Basin – specifically in Montoursville, Lycoming County. There's a park there called Indian Park that has a small pond that's open to the public. This species was observed there.

The red swamp crayfish is large and fairly destructive; it's most common in the food trade. If you've ever eaten crayfish at a restaurant, that's probably the species that you were eating.

The PFBC received a photograph from an angler that noticed one of these crayfish crawling on land near the pond in Montoursville. PFBC staff, including Sean Hartzell and Dave Lieb, investigated the site in late August and captured some of the species while there; multiple size classes. The crayfish seems to be well established in the pond. Bad news is, there's a large wetland corridor associated with the area and Loyalsock Creek which is nearby. At this point, there's no good way to get rid of the red swamp crayfish that's there; unfortunately, it's well established. PFBC has offered to give some signage to the borough that manages the park to let folks know about this invasive crayfish.

Dave Lieb and Sean Hartzell have a paper about the red swamp crayfish accepted for journal publication; should be published in the next few months. This finding of red swamp crayfish in the Susquehanna River Basin is very significant in terms of crayfish in Pennsylvania.

Summary: Andrew Rohrbaugh (DCNR) mentioned that spongy moth is in decline across Pennsylvania, research efforts are underway in partnership with DCNR to protect trees from beech leaf disease, and DCNR's forest health geneticist helped provide information in a newly released episode of the Wild Kratts TV show that highlights butternut trees. Rosa Yoo (DCNR) mentioned the 2026 Forest Health, Insect, and Disease Briefing will be held on March 3.

In 2026, there will be lower spongy moth presences across the state. After the outbreak over the last few years, spongy moth has been steadily on the wane. The DCNR Bureau of Forestry plans to conduct a spongy moth treatment program in northeast Pennsylvania in 2026.

-- Jim Grazio (DEP) asked, what is the suspected reason for the decline in spongy moth? Andrew responded that for decades, spongy moths have gone through periodic booms and busts, with the *Entomophaga* fungus and NPV virus both affecting spongy moth's collapsing population. Likely though, spongy moth numbers will increase over time again,

so DCNR will continue to do egg mass monitoring so they're prepared for the next outbreak. In the meantime, DCNR is directing some of its funding for spongy moth towards invasive plant work including management of wavyleaf basketgrass.

The DCNR is working with researchers on several beech leaf disease trials to test potential options for protecting individual trees. Unfortunately, none of these options will be feasible on a large scale, but could be useful for protecting trees/genetics in specific areas.

The TV show, Wild Kratts, did an episode about the butternut tree and the canker disease that's unfortunately wiped out most of this tree species. DCNR's Forest Health Geneticist, Amanda Penn, helped collaborate on information presented in the show.

Rosa Yoo (DCNR) commented that the 2026 Forest Health, Insect, and Disease Briefing will be held on March 3. DCNR partners with Penn State to host this event.

Summary: Brian Harris (PSATS) mentioned that a PSATS magazine article will be released in March 2026 that will highlight invasive species in Pennsylvania and the updated PA Invasive Species Management Plan.

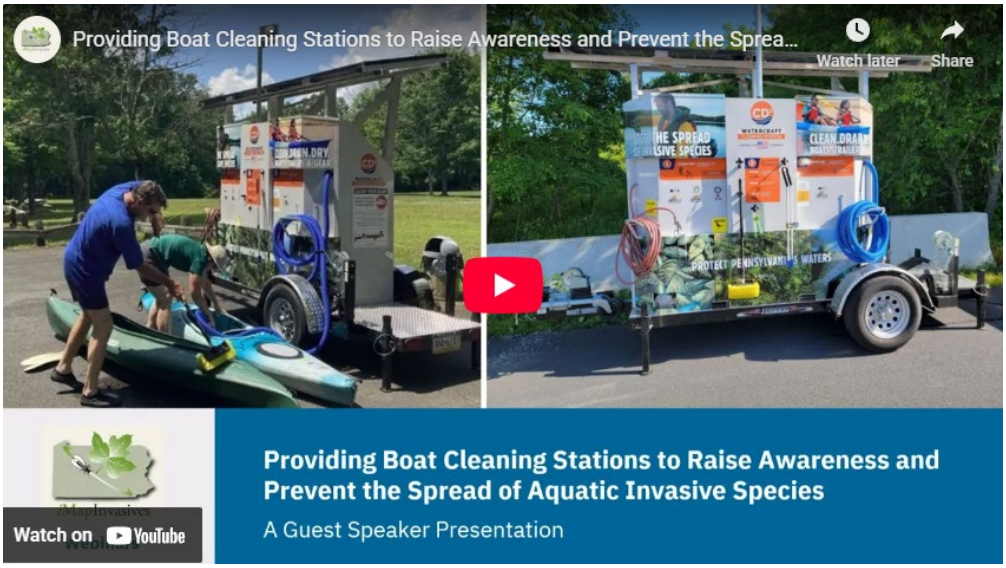
An upcoming edition of the PA State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS) magazine will include an article about invasive species and the updated PA Invasive Species Management Plan in March 2026. This magazine is sent to all the municipalities in Pennsylvania. The article will provide a good opportunity to let second-class townships in Pennsylvania know more about invasive species and info about the Council.

Summary: Amy Jewitt (WPC) remarked about the PA iMapInvasives' annual Invasive Species Scavenger Hunt held in summer 2025, a WPC-hosted webinar that highlights boat cleaning stations and their ability to help raise awareness about aquatic invasive

species, the "Seeing The Unseen: Aquatic Invaders and What's at Stake" film produced by the WPC, and four short films that WPC will be making that highlight aquatic invasives.

The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's iMapInvasives Program hosted its 2025 Invasive Species Scavenger Hunt, an annual event. The species that participants surveyed for as part of this event included burning bush, Japanese spiraea, Bishop's goutweed, garden loosestrife, and ravenna grass.

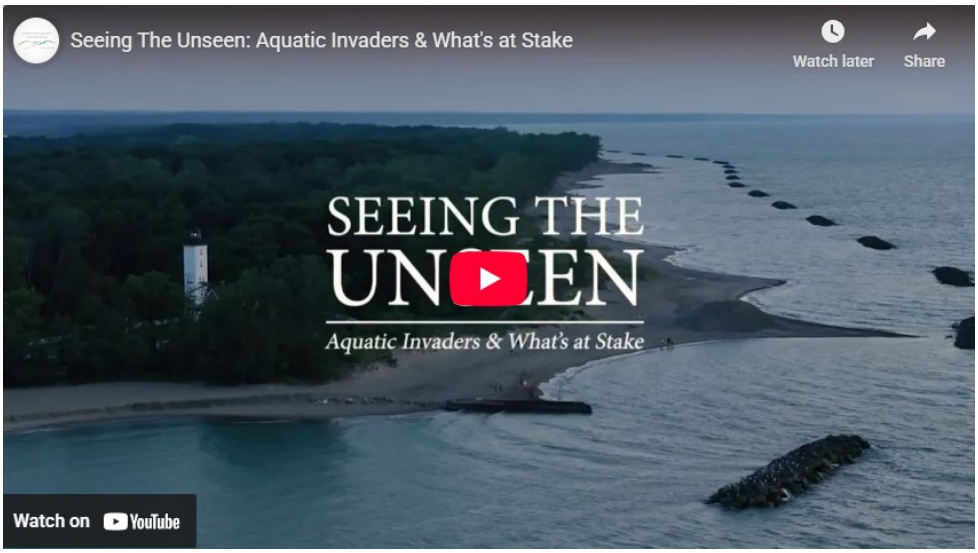
Several months ago in September, the WPC hosted a guest speaker webinar that featured Kate Harms of the PA Lake Management Society and Mark Morrison of the PA Fish and Boat Commission. Together, they discussed how boat cleaning stations help raise awareness for preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species. View webinar.



The WPC created a documentary film in partnership with Great Lakes Media & Film that was released at the beginning of 2024. It's titled "Seeing The Unseen: Aquatic Invaders and What's at Stake" and is 44 minutes in length. It can be watched anytime for free on YouTube. (Watch a 1-minute trailer.)

Since the film's release, the WPC has had the privilege to do a number of screening events in Pennsylvania as well as in neighboring states (OH, VA). Some screening events have included panel discussions. A list of recent screenings occurred at:

- Penn State's Dive Deeper Summit (Harrisburg, PA)
- Mid-Atlantic Invasive Plant Council Conference (Richmond, VA)
- Ohio University's Sustainability Film Series (Athens, OH)



Lastly, the WPC received grant funding that will be used in 2026 to create four short films that focus on aquatic invasive species and their connection to recreational activities such as fishing, boating, swimming, etc. The films will highlight the connection between the outdoor activities people enjoy doing and the presence and spread of aquatic invasives.

Summary: Celine Colbert (DCNR) provided an update on the 2026 Pennsylvania Invasive Replace-ive Program.

The PA Invasive Replace-ive (PAIR) Program was held for the first time in 2025. The DCNR plans to host the program again in spring of 2026. In 2025, five giveaway events were held throughout the state where native trees were given away to participants; in 2026, the number of giveaway events will increase to eight. We are in the early stages of planning, choosing event dates, and finalizing locations.

--Kris Abell (PDA) mentioned that there is an opportunity for volunteers to be present at these giveaway events in 2026 to share education and outreach information about the harm of invasive species and the benefits that native trees and shrubs provide. Contact Kris or Celine if interested in helping with education/outreach at the 2026 PAIR events.

Summary: Michael Hutchinson (PDA) commented on some recent snail findings in various parts of Pennsylvania, resulting in some findings of species that are new to Pennsylvania as well as North America.

As part of the PA Department of Agriculture's general surveillance work, searches for snails are done when surveying nurseries and during nursery inspections. Generally, PDA

does not find quarantined/invasive snail species during these surveys; however, over the past few years, several snails have been observed that are noteworthy, including:

- Carthusian snail (*Monacha cartusiana*) (native to Europe)
- Vineyard snail (*Cernuella virgata*) (native to Europe)
- No common name (*Xeropicta derbentina*) (native to Europe)
- African land snail (*Lissachatina immaculata*)

The Carthusian snail was found in an insect trap for a different survey done last fall. This species has some iNaturalist records, which PDA reviewed in fall 2025 to see if they could be confirmed (which some of there were confirmed by PDA staff). The species seems to be fairly distributed across the state.

A homeowner in Lancaster County indicated he was seeing many snails at the edge of his property. Upon investigation, it was noted that a guardrail near his property was loaded with snails. PDA did surveys at the location this past fall. Several thousand snails were found to be heavily concentrated on an unmowed hillside near the guardrail. The species found included both vineyard snails (C. virgata) and *X. derbentina* (no common name). PDA wanted to do an assessment of the site and remove some of the reproductive snails before they started laying eggs. However, there were so many snails that mechanical removal wasn't going to be enough, so PDA implemented other control measures using vegetation management and molluscicides. Vegetation was piled up in the middle of the hillside (to avoid needing to take off site). The pile was burned, and over the course of the last couple months, PDA did three molluscicide treatments. Collectively, this management regime seems to have wiped the snails out. PDA will monitor the site again in spring 2026.

Xeropicta derbentina was a surprise to find; it's new to North America (found in three counties so far). The vineyard snail is generally found in ports every now and then; there's one small population in Washington State. PDA and USDA are trying to determine how serious these discoveries may be and thus how to deal with these situations. So far, none

of these species seem to be causing any problems, but PDA is on the lookout for them and plans to control any heavy populations found.

In Souderton, Montgomery County, someone noticed a gigantic snail in the parking lot of his workplace and brought it home to keep as a pet in a makeshift aquarium. After doing some research, the individual learned it was an African land snail, a species which is illegal to own. The person contacted the USDA, which later came and took care of the snail. USDA also did surveillance in the area but didn't find any additional snails. African land snails are common in the pet trade. This one that was found could have gotten out accidentally or was purposely released.

If anyone ever sees any gigantic accumulations of snails in an area, please contact the PDA.

Legislative Committee Report

Speaker: Eve Adrian, Executive Policy Specialist 2, PA Department of Agriculture (eadrian@pa.gov)

Legislative Committee Members	
Committee Chair	Eve Adrian, PDA
State Agencies	
PA Department of Agriculture	Stephen Rudman, Kris Abell, Sarah Hammond, Chris Davis, Frank Schneider
PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources	Andrew Rohrbaugh, Ben Mummert, Ali Bowling, Nicole Faraguna, Eric Nelson, Daniel Garci
PA Fish and Boat Commission	Krisinda Corbin, Koty McGowan
PA Department of Transportation	
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group	Amy Shields
Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture & American Bird Conservancy	Amanda Duren
Audubon Mid-Atlantic	Jim Brown, Scott Parkhill
Crawford County Conservation District	Brian Pilarcik
Governor's Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing, and Conservation	Derek Eberly
PA Association of Conservation Districts	Piper Sherburne, Amy Brown, Molly Burns
PA Environmental Council	John Walliser
PA Landscape and Nursery Association	Gregg Robertson
PA Sea Grant	Sarah Whitney
Penn State Extension	Patricia Prade
Penn State University	Julie Urban
PennAg Industries Association	Harold Brecht
Western PA Conservancy	Jeff Wagner, Brian Gallagher, Mary Walsh, Amy Jewitt
Are you interested in joining the Legislative Committee? Council members and non-members are welcome. If yes, contact Eve Adrian at eadrian@pa.gov.	

Invasive Species Act

The Invasive Species Act is the Legislative Committee's top priority. This has been a multi-year effort that has resulted in several different versions of this legislation being drafted and developed internally. We've had several back-and-forth sessions with PDA's legal division; they have been very helpful in guiding us in the language formation and legalese

recommendations on how to word certain things so that the legislation not only passes legal muster, but is well received among the legislative folks who eventually could be sponsoring or co-sponsoring it. We are nowhere close to introducing the Invasive Species Act yet but are one small step closer to getting to that point. We most recently got comments back from PDA's legal division which the committee reviewed during our Legislative Committee meeting yesterday. Eve will be in touch with PDA's legal division to talk through some of the updates that were made by the committee. Next steps for the draft legislation; PDA legal may or may not want to review it again. We can continue doing internal PDA review and then eventually go to Secretary Redding for his approval. After that, we'll discuss with legislation/policy folks that PDA works with in the Governor's office. As you may recall, we got to the point last session where we were ready to give the draft legislation to the legislative policy team in the Governor's office, but unfortunately they were not able to complete their review before the next legislative session began.

Our current goal is to "power through" and get the current draft legislation back to our counterparts in the Governor's office so they can make a full review. Then we can talk about introducing the legislation. Eve feels that legislation will be well received by legislators and doesn't think it will raise concerns for anyone.

Center for Excellence for Invasive Species Management

The Center for Excellence for Invasive Species Management is an alternative to creating a PRISM program in PA (Partnerships for Regional Invasive Species Management). It seems to be the most palatable idea with the Legislative committee. It's a style that seems like it will be well received by the administration and legislators, and which is very familiar for legislators. Our committee is currently working through the details of this proposal/concept. Next steps include confirming the goals we have for the Center for Excellence since this style is very flexible and more like a "choose your own adventure" kind of arrangement. We need to be clear about what our goals are and what the scope will be for the Center. We would draft an internal concept proposal document which would be reviewed by PGISC and PDA staff. Once approved, it would move forward for consideration. No action will be taken without PGISC's awareness and involvement.

Upcoming Events in 2026

Native Species Day at the PA capital is happening Monday, June 1, 2026 (a session day). We're likely to have lots of legislators present. We'll also have an educational table placed at Soldier's Grove and hopefully have trees and shrubs to distribute in connection to the PA Invasive Replace-ive Program. The intention is to make this a multi agency/organization collaborative effort.

ACTION: Council members and stakeholders are encouraged to attend and participate in the PA Native Species Day event at the Capitol on June 1! There will be outreach opportunities available. Assistance is currently needed to help with planning this event too.

ACTION: Council members and stakeholders are also encouraged to celebrate Native Species Day in their own way, such as hosting a walk to see and identify native and invasive species, hosting an informational webinar, etc.

The PA Farm Show is happening Jan 10-17, 2026. Hope to see you there!

Communications Committee Report

Speaker: Amy Jewitt, PA iMapInvasives Program Coordinator, Western PA Conservancy (ajewitt@paconserve.org)

Communications Committee Members	
Committee Chair	Patricia Prade, Penn State Extension
State Agencies	
PA Department of Agriculture	Kris Abell, Daniel Blottenberger, Sarah Shiflett, Shayna Seeley
PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources	Andrew Rohrbaugh, Ryan Reed
PA Fish and Boat Commission	Michael Parker
PA Department of Transportation	Zachary Appleby
Non-Governmental Organizations	
PA Sea Grant	Amber Stilwell
Western PA Conservancy	Amy Jewitt
Are you interested in joining the Communications Committee? Council members and non-members are welcome. If yes, contact Patricia Prade at prade@psu.edu.	

Council's Quarterly E-News

The Council's quarterly e-newsletter will be released in early 2026. If anyone has any stories or projects you'd like to see highlighted in the newsletter, please send your information to either Patricia Prade or Kris Abell.

Content we're looking for includes information like the updates being shared during the beginning part of today's meeting (i.e., the agency/org updates). The Council's newsletter provides a way to share what Council members and stakeholders are doing with a larger audience and not only raise awareness but also encourage networking and relationship building among each other. If there's any published content already online that can easily be shared via an online link, that's what we utilize in the Council's e-news.

Brochure for PennDOT Welcome Centers

Work continues on creating a brochure that will highlight invasive species. It will be housed in welcome centers along different highways across Pennsylvania. Its purpose is to get more information in the hands of the public regarding invasives. The brochure should be completed in spring 2026.

2026 Farm Show

The Communications Committee is helping to create the booth that the Council will have at the PA Farm Show, including a Connect Four kid-friendly game. Instead of using red and black checkers, they will be native and invasive species checkers. The goal is to play the game with kids, trying to connect native species and not be interrupted by invasives. Hopefully the game will lead into some educational messaging about the importance of native species and how they need to be protected from invasives.

The booth will also be part of the Ag Explorer Program which is a way to encourage kids to visit various booths and play educational games at the Farm Show. Participants receive a stamp and a passbook. This year, the Ag Explorer Program is putting together an app for the first time and can be used by kids.

Biennial Report to Governor

This committee is compiling the next biennial report that will be given to the Governor. The last biennial report was done in 2023; view report.

Webinars & Outreach

The Council is partnering with Patricia Prade of Penn State Extension to assist in hosting several webinars about invasive species and related initiatives.

Invasive Species Listing Committee Report

Speaker: Andrew Rohrbaugh, Forest Health Supervisor, Bureau of Forestry, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (anrohrbaug@pa.gov)

Invasive Species Listing Committee Members	
Committee Chair	Andrew Rohrbaugh, PA DCNR
State Agencies	
PA Department of Agriculture	Kris Abell, Lawrence Barringer, Ekaterina (Katya) Nikolaeva, Frank Schneider
PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources	Jill Rose, Houping Liu, Ben Mummert, Hannah Huber
PA Fish and Boat Commission	Sean Hartzell
PA Game Commission	Scott Bearer
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Ernst Conservation Seeds	Andrew Ernst
Juniata College	Norris Muth
PA Landscape and Nursery Association	Gregg Robertson
Penn State Extension	Patricia Prade
Penn State University	Deah Lieurance
Penn Ag Industries	Harold Brecht
Western PA Conservancy	Brian Daggs, Mary Walsh, Jeff Wagner
Are you interested in joining the Invasive Species Listing Committee? Council members and non-members are welcome. If yes, contact Andrew Rohrbaugh at anrohrbaug@pa.gov.	

Invasive Plants

The Listing Committee has been going through a regional tiering process by reviewing various invasive plant species and helping to prioritize work related to them within the various regions of Pennsylvania. Species distributions were reviewed as part of this process. For example, garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*) is considered a Tier 4 species (well established statewide) and is recommended for local management. Common frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*) is rare in Pennsylvania (and management efforts should be focused on prevention and eradication. Chocolate vine (*Akebia quinata)* is found in some parts of the state, but it not well established statewide.

The Committee voted yes to adding more species to the Council's invasive plant list, including the following (see list below). Each species name is followed by its invasive species assessment ranking.

- Japanese chaff-flower (*Achyranthes japonica*) (high)
- Inciased fumewort (*Corydalis incisa*) (moderate)
- Floating seedbox (*Ludwigia peploides* ssp. *glabrescens*) (very high)
- Yellow loosestrife (*Lysimachia vulgaris*) (high)
- Leatherleaf mahonia (*Mahonia bealei*) (high)
- Cutleaf blackberry (*Rubus laciniatus)* (moderate)
- Ragged robin *(Silene flos-cuculi)* (high)

The Listing Committee postponed making a decision on the following: Star-mustard (*Coincya monensis)*, Oregon grape (*Mahonia aquifolilum)*, and Creeping Himalayan smartweed (*Persicaria posumbu*) to ensure assessments were conducted for each species in order to make a more informed decision. Andrew plans to conduct some of these needed assessments.

The Committee decided not to add the following species to the PGISC's Invasive Plant List: Sweet clovers (*Melilotus* spp.) and watercress (*Nasturtium officinale*).

Invasive Fungi

Hannah Huber (DCNR) has been working through a list of invasive fungi in Pennsylvania. The Council has a list of diseases, and the Listing Committee discussed its intent to break apart the list by having fungi be listed as its own taxonomic group. Within the fungi group, there will be categories listed for plant pathogen, animal pathogen, etc., to help group things better. A lot of fungi cause disease issues, which is why they're problematic.

There will also be a miscellaneous taxa group that will include bacteria, protists, etc.

The committee listed white nose syndrome as "Established" in Pennsylvania. The committee is also looking into snake fungal disease (chytrid) to determine its nativity.

The following species of fungi were added that were not previously on the Council's species list:

- Golden oyster mushroom (*Pleurotus citrinopileatus)*
- Death cap mushroom (*Amanita phalloides*)
- Thiers' lepidella (S*aproamanita thiersii*)
- Chestnut blight (*Cryphonectria parasitica*)
- Dogwood anthracnose (*Discula destructiva*)
- Butternut canker (*Ophognomonia clavigignenti-juglandacearum*)
- Dutch elm disease *(Ophiostoma ulmi*)

Species highlighted in yellow are non-native fungi that can either be hazardous to human health or appear to be having detrimental impacts ecologically and are taking over habitats. Species highlighted in blue are tree diseases.

--Jim Grazio (DEP) asked if there's an established method by which regional groups could approach the Listing Committee to consider species of concern that have broader impacts outside of just Pennsylvania. As an example, Jim referenced aquatic nuisance species panels in the Great Lakes and Mid-Atlantic regions that have a regional interest in coordinating the management of various invasive species.

--Deah Lieurance (PSU) responded, saying that trying to do cross-border coordination of any kind of listing is very difficult. She was involved in a similar effort with non-regulatory species listings in the Southeast with Invasive Plant Councils there, and the issue was that people won't settle on one way to do it, and there are different considerations. For example, when folks in Alabama wanted to list species, they were equally looking at impacts to agriculture and human impacts as well as impacts to natural areas. Other states considered impacts to natural areas only. To do these coordinated efforts, you have to get the buy-in of all the states involved. This has been a goal of Deah's for a long time, to get people on the same page to reduce duplication of efforts and to standardize procedures to facilitate sharing information across borders.

--Jim appreciated Deah's comments, following up by saying that the goal is to have a broader/regional or ecoregion-wide coordination for certain species.

--Jim reiterated his question, saying he wants the Council to be aware that sometimes there are regional or multi-state efforts to manage various taxa. --Kris Abell (PDA) responded that Jim should talk with him offline more on this topic. Information can be given to the Listing Committee for future discussion.

Aquatic Invasive Species Education & Outreach Committee Report

Speaker: Amber Stilwell, Coastal Outreach Specialist, PA Sea Grant; also Master Watershed Steward Coordinator for Erie, Crawford & Warren counties, Penn State Extension (ars26@psu.edu)

Aquatic Invasive Species Education & Outreach Committee	
Committee Chair	Amber Stilwell, PA Sea Grant/Penn State Extension
State Agencies	
PA Department of Agriculture	Kris Abell
PA Dept of Conservation & Natural Resources	John Laskos
PA Fish and Boat Commission	Sean Hartzell
Non-Governmental Organizations	
PA Lake Management Society	Kate Harms
PA Sea Grant	Sara Stahlman, Sarah Whitney
Penn State Extension	Brad Kunsman, Faith Kibuye, Glen Bupp, Jenn Fetter, Megan Luke, Patricia Prade, Susan Boser
Western PA Conservancy	Mary Walsh
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Tony Honick, John Chopp
Are you interested in joining the Aquatic Invasive Species Education & Outreach Committee? Council members and non-members are welcome. If yes, contact Amber Stilwell at ars26@psu.edu.	

Overview

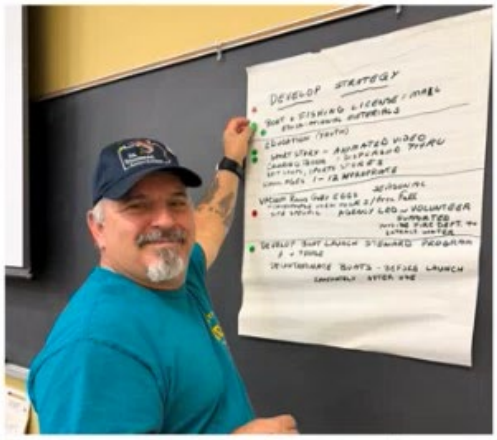
This committee meets quarterly to discuss aquatic invasive species outreach efforts across the state of Pennsylvania. Current committee projects include an angler engagement session, Farm Show outreach (previously discussed in today's meeting by others), connecting to agricultural communities and conservation districts, and sharing events and current efforts.

Anglers Help Prevent Spread of Round Goby

On December 6, 2025, an angler engagement session was hosted by PA Sea Grant. This was a community-based social marketing event where anglers were invited to discuss ways PA Sea Grant could improve outreach strategies related to the invasive round goby in hopes of preventing this species' spread by creating messaging that works for the angling community.

A total of 18 anglers registered for the event as well as four volunteers that engage in fishing activities; 16 of those voices attended the session. The event yielded good participation and great breakout groups and voices from the angling community. From this 5-hour event, we found that all the anglers had great ideas and were able to work in our breakout groups to distill that information down to strategies that were voted on by the attendees. In participant evaluations, we learned that 100% of individuals (that completed an evaluation) would attend a similar event in the future. A total of 68% of participants strongly agreed that the session increased their understanding of how angler behavior can be used to prevent the spread of the round goby.

Amber is in the final processes of creating a workshop summary from this angler engagement session. The sticky dot voting that was done at the event will reveal the highest priority action items that will be listed a summary report. Amber thanked the event planning committee, workshop facilitators, and volunteers; this workshop would not have been possible without everyone's help.



2026 PA Farm Show

Amber mentioned that she liked how the Council was able to piggyback off of the Farm Show's theme of "Growing a Nation" by having the PGISC/invasive species booth have a theme of "Growing Our Nation's Habitat." The Connect Four game should be fun; it's about biodiversity and how invasive species can negatively impact biodiversity. We're also contributing to the Ag Explorer website which will have lots of additional information that will help the public increase biodiversity and habitat in their own backyards and build a better connection to agricultural communities. The planning team for the 2026 PGISC booth at the PA Farm Show included: Kris Abell, Daniel Blottenberger, Patricia Prade, Jennifer Senchak, Deah Lieurance, Jocelyn Behm, and Amber Stilwell.

Banner by Caroline Estey

Connection to Agricultural Communities

How best to reach the ag audience with information about aquatic invasive species?

- Conservation districts can feature e-newsletter articles, webinars, and add recorded programming to the Clean Water Academy
- Provide resources to Penn State Extension staff like slides and existing handouts
- Support Penn State Extension programming by presenting in webinar series with ag communities as primary audience

Amber is working with Susan Boser (Penn State Extension) to develop a presentation titled "What's In Your Farm Pond? Identifying and Managing Aquatic Invasive Species" that will be given on March 2, 2026. This event is part of the Ag Water webinar series (a larger series of events) and should get really good attendance.

Other Upcoming Events in 2026

- Center for Agricultural Conservation and Assistance Training (CACAT): Pass training for water systems (December & January)
- Penn State Extension Pond Management webinar series – will include aquatic invasive species components
- Penn State Extension Twilight Walks
- Invasive Replace-ive Program

Internship Opportunties with PA Sea Grant

PA Sea Grant is hiring interns for summer 2026 for work associated with communications, education, outreach, and the Natural History Museum. The outreach intern will specifically focus on aquatic invasive species. More information is here.

Breakout Groups: Discussion of Pennsylvania Invasive Species Management Plan

Kris Abell (PDA) briefly explained how Council members and stakeholders should plan to join one of four virtual breakout groups held during today's meeting. Each group will focus on a specific topic of discussion (see list below) and will have a lead facilitator.

- Prevention
- Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR)
- Containment and Eradication
- Long Term Management

This is the second time these breakout groups have been occurring during the Council's quarterly meetings. The goal of today's breakout groups is to finish the prioritization that was made during the last Council meeting in September regarding the recommendations outlined in the PA Invasive Species Management Plan. Follow-up goals after today's breakout group discussions are to strategize ideas and make concrete actions and steps towards implementing the statewide plan's recommendations.

Feedback from the last Council meeting indicated that 30 minutes for the breakout groups was too short, so this time the groups will be given 50 minutes to meet. Participants were given the option of joining whichever breakout group they were most interested in.

Breakout groups commenced with each group being led by a Council member.

Breakout Group Summary Reports

Summary: Deah Lieurance (Penn State) facilitated Breakout Group #1 in a discussion of the Prevention recommendations listed in the PA Invasive Species Management Plan. Logic models were discussed as a potential tool to use for strategic planning and goal setting for prevention activities as they relate to invasive species. Also, the Center for Excellence model was highlighted as a goal that could help achieve prevention of invasive species via recreational spread.

Prevention Group Participants	
Facilitator	Deah Lieurance, Penn State
State Agencies	
PA Department of Agriculture	Kris Abell, Ekaterina Nikolaeva, Shayna Seeley, Johnny Zook, Misty Matesig, Sarah Gettys
Non-Governmental Organizations	
PA Lake Management Society	Kate Harms
PA Landscape and Nursery Association	Gregg Robertson
PA Sea Grant	Sara Stahlman, Sarah Whitney
Schuylkill Conservation District	Kyle Schutt
Are you interested in joining the Prevention Group? Council members and non-members are welcome. If yes, contact Deah Lieurance at dzl5661@psu.edu.	

Review (what happened last time)

Ranked "prevention" priorities listed in the PA Invasive Species Management Plan. Choose to keep the order they were already listed in. Format as a timeline. Horizon scanning makes sense to know what potential species are "on the horizon". Possible implementation that we can do.

Logic Models

Possible use of logic models, which include the following core components: inputs, activities, outputs, outcomes, and short- and long-term goals.

Working based on several assumptions to help plan and move forward, including sustained funding and staffing for agencies and partners, continued council interagency involvement and collaboration, etc. Also acknowledging external factors that could impact our work such as economic conditions, changing regulations, etc.

Login modeling began with the following recommendation: *Developing policies/regulations and resources to improve prevention of invasive species introduction and monitor invasion pathways*.

Are logic model frameworks a good way to move forward?

--Gregg Robertson (PLNA): Logic models make a lot of sense and make a great framework. In favor of moving forward in this way.

--Shayna Seeley (PDA): Concern with the physical being more for outreach in communities and the regulatory would be more management for businesses. Policy and regulatory would be more long-term goals vs. infrastructure- more immediate action. Someone needs to take reins on focusing on the policy piece because you have to go into legal action with that as well- need a point person

Center for Excellence Model

Updated Recommendation 2 to *"Develop resources to improve prevention of invasive species introductions and monitor invasion pathways."*

What do we want to see put in place to help with these prevention activities?

--Gregg Robertson (PLNA): Much different approach to PRISMs with the Center for Excellence approach (acknowledge that in the statewide plan so we can get the resources we need to implement prevention activities).

Added Center of Excellence as a goal. Add a focus on prevention through recreational spread.

Recommendation 2: Develop resources to improve prevention of invasive species introductions and monitor invasion pathways

Goal: Establish Center for Excellence (alt. for PRISMS) for implementation of prevention activities and provide the infrastructure to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species

Inputs/Resources	Activities	Outputs	Short-term Outcomes	Intermediate Outcomes	Long-term Outcomes
• **PGISC coordination capacity** • **Agency, university, and non-profit groups, Interjurisdictional groups/relationships** • **Funding (?)** • **Information about climate change (e.g. projections)** • **Existing pathway data** • **Existing protocols and educational resources for certifications (certified weed free products-NAISMA, Don't Move Firewood-TNC)**	• PGISC works with PDA to establish a Center for Excellence • Partner with universities and non-profits to promote prevention • Evaluate species for regulatory listing • Prevent introduction and spread from agricultural, forestry, and recreational activities • Concentrate prevention near high quality habitats and high-risk pathways • Certify mulch, gravel, fill, and feed as weed-free	• Establishment of a Center for Excellence to coordinate invasive species prevention efforts • Certified product standards • Updated regulatory lists • Prevention products and protocols at recreation sites (e.g., signage, • Measurable indicators to track prevention efforts (e.g., the number of watercraft inspections or boot cleaning stations installed)	• Increased awareness among suppliers • Farmers, foresters, and recreationists exposed to prevention messaging • Prominent pathways for introduction and spread monitored • Products begin certification process	• Established policy to achieve prevention goals (e.g. Certified products, regulatory listing) • Reduced contaminated products entering market • Decreased introduction and spread via agricultural, forestry, and recreational activities • Species suited for future climates regulated • Measurable behavioral changes	• Prevent introduction and spread from agricultural, forestry, and recreational activities • Reduced economic losses from invasions • Protected native ecosystems • Slowed spread of existing invasives

Copy of logic model (draft) from Prevention Break-Out Group facilitated by Deah Lieurance.

Summary: Mary Walsh (WPC) and Amy Jewitt (WPC) facilitated Breakout Group #2 in a discussion of the Early Detection and Rapid Response recommendations listed in the PA Invasive Species Management Plan. The group primarily discussed establishing reserve funds for use in responding to new invasive species introductions. Agencies were mentioned that have existing funds as opposed to those that do not. Obstacles were mentioned as well as lessons learned from previous circumstances such as with spotted lanternfly and the golden alga fish kill.

Early Detection and Rapid Response Group Participants	
Facilitators	Mary Walsh & Amy Jewitt, Western PA Conservancy
State Agencies	
PA Department of Agriculture	Frank Schneider, Shane Phillips
PA Dept of Conservation & Natural Resources	Angela Spagnoli, Nick Decker
PA Fish and Boat Commission	Sean Hartzell
Non-Governmental Organizations	
PA Farm Bureau	Grant Gulibon
University of Pennsylvania	Lisa Murphy
Western PA Conservancy	Brian Daggs
Are you interested in joining the Early Detection and Rapid Response Group? Council members and non-members are welcome. If yes, contact Mary Walsh at mwalsh@paconserve.org or Amy Jewitt at ajewitt@paconserve.org.	

EDRR Group

We plan to have monthly meetings to develop strategies for implementing the early detection and rapid response (EDRR) section of the 2025 PA Invasive Species Management Plan. Let Amy or Mary know if you'd like to be involved at future EDRR group meetings.

The Plan sets aspirational goals for invasive species management in the state. The group's purpose is to develop strategies for implementation of the Plan's EDRR-specific recommendations #7-12 and actions (listed on pages 25-31).

Discussion

As a group, we will determine the best method to develop strategies. We preliminarily suggest that the group identifies the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats/obstacles (SWOT) for each recommendation with the following questions and topic areas:

- Who are the appropriate people to be involved?
- What available resources can be sought after?
- What are things already happening?
- What don't we know about how things work?
- Research available grant opportunities or streams of funding
- Can we tie into allotted dollars that state agencies already have for specific tasks (i.e., achieve two goals with one funding stream), similar to how PA's Invasive Replace-ive Program came to be?
- What communication or education/outreach can be done in the short term to help achieve a specific goal?

Discussion Notes:

The group discussed recommendation #11 – *Establish reserve funds that can be utilized to rapidly respond to new invasive species introductions*.

Some agencies have existing EDRR resources; for instance, PDA has RR funds for avian influenza and spotted lanternfly.

Other agencies like PFBC and DEP have no EDRR funding. For the PFBC Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) program, there is limited funding (essentially solely to support the AIS Coordinator position). There is no current money to expand efforts via support for additional staffing or flexible funds for EDRR needs.

What outside funding could be used for AIS and RR? USFWS had $ available for 1.5 years that states could apply for, but the funding seems to have ended. Obtaining federal funds has had too much administrative burden and PFBC wasn't able to apply for it. PA Sea Grant/GLRI supports a lot of AIS projects and it could be used in a creative way to support EDRR work. PRISM program funds may be available in the future to support identified priorities. The Center for Excellence model, which PGISC's Legislative Committee is currently advocating for, could be a way to channel funding for EDRR. The planned model would be allowed to give out grants; DEP manages coastal zone grants that may be applicable to EDRR.

Some obstacles for state agencies to act quickly in EDRR scenarios include not having in-house expertise to implement solutions (like herbicide certifications) and administrative challenges to hiring contractors.

What lessons can be learned from previous examples of new infestations, as in spotted lanternfly? When that was first found in Pennsylvania, PDA relied on help from USDA to implement actions. Another example is the golden alga fish kill in Dunkard Creek in 2009.

PFBC, DEP, WVDNR, and EPA staff came together when that incident occurred. There has been long-term monitoring/restoration. What are the takeaways?

DCNR Bureau of State Parks has environmental stewardship funds that are allocated each year in the state budget and are applied to AIS management. It's been used for long term management like fanwort at Whipple Dam State Park and also for new infestations as they arise.

Some other programs may be available, like the dogs trained for detecting invasive species, through the Wildlife Futures Program.

Use of volunteers as a means to implement EDRR? Volunteers can help with certain situations, for instance a water lettuce pull organized by Master Watershed Stewards/PA Sea Grant. Coordinating the volunteer effort is needed to make this strategy effective and requires time and staff effort.

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Summary: Jocelyn Behm (Temple University) facilitated Breakout Group #3 in a discussion of the Eradication and Containment recommendations listed in the PA Invasive Species Management Plan. The highest priority of increasing agency staffing for EDRR capacity was discussed along with associated challenges for implementation. The use of apps and technology were discussed as useful tools to be considered. Improved coordination and information sharing among agencies was also mentioned as a critical component.

Eradication and Containment Group Participants	
Facilitator	Jocelyn Behm, Temple University
Agencies	
US Forest Service	April Moore
PA Department of Agriculture	Kris Abell
Non-Governmental Organizations	
Are you interested in joining the Eradication and Containment Group? Council members and non-members are welcome. If yes, contact Jocelyn Behm at Jocelyn.behm@temple.edu.	

The Eradication and Containment group previously ranked their five recommendations from the statewide plan at the September Council meeting. The group continued discussing those recommendations and rankings during today's meeting. The recommendation ranked as the highest priority was to increase agency staffing capacity for early detection and rapid response (EDRR). The group discussed the limitations and challenges with that, notably hiring freezes, funding, and other things that make it difficult to add more people. The group also discussed how to utilize existing people in potentially different roles – perhaps developing RR teams or people that are specifically deployed in the event of something's detected and actually needs to be taken care of. These would be existing people with existing positions instead of hiring more (new) people. Essentially, it would be adding an additional role to someone's existing responsibilities in their realm of capacity.

Apps and technology came up in terms of sharing information; making people aware of species threats, such as the snails that were discussed during today's meeting by Michael Hutchinson (PDA). Technology could allow for people who are out and about to identify those species quickly. Maybe they're not looking for them specifically, but they would be on their radar.

Another topic of discussed focused on improving coordination among agencies and information sharing. We brainstormed ways that might happen and what the limitations and pushback among agencies might be. We thought that might be an additional area to focus on in the future – trying to come up with ways that agencies might be comfortable sharing information, data, etc. That could help facilitate these RR, containment, and possibly other aspects of the whole invasive species plan – i.e., prevention, management, etc.).

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Summary: Andrew Rohrbaugh (DCNR) facilitated Breakout Group #4 in a discussion of the Long-Term Management recommendations listed in the PA Invasive Species Management Plan. The group discussed three recommendations as well as their proposed implementation ideas for each.

Long-Term Management Group Participants	
Facilitator	Andrew Rohrbaugh, DCNR
State Agencies	
PA Department of Agriculture	Eve Adrian
PA Dept of Conservation & Natural Resources	Rosa Yoo, Nick Decker
PA Department of Transportation	Raymond Boronyak, Bryon Ruhl
Non-Governmental Organizations	
FirstEnergy	Marie Maiuro
Lehigh County Conservation District	Maggie Wallner
PA Association of Conservation Districts	Molly Burns
Western PA Conservancy	Jeff Wagner
Are you interested in joining the Long-Term Management Group? Council members and non-members are welcome. If yes, contact Andrew Rohrbaugh at anrohrbaug@pa.gov.	

The Long-Term Management group discussed three recommendations. They are listed below along with their associated actions, proposed implementation, and discussion.

Recommendation: *Support and communicate the need for development of improved ways to measure the long-term economic, ecological, and health impacts of invasive species, and compare those to the costs of management. This should include studies on the values of ecosystem services, and study how to efficiently manage long-term invasive pressure with integrated pest management (IPM) techniques.*

- **Proposed implementation (requires funding):**
  - We should fund measuring the impacts of the following:
    - Study water quality from invasive plants, animals, forest I&D impacts (Chesapeake Bay)
    - Silvicultural costs
    - Aquatic costs
    - Spongy moth/other FID forest decline costs to ecology and economy
    - When you lose oak, is maple/birch replacement worth as much?

- We should fund the long-term management:
    - Metrics of successful long-term management
    - Continued investment in new management techniques: SPLAT for LDD, for example; biocontrols

- **Proposed implementation (other)**
    - Coordinate with Center for Plant Excellence

- **Discussion:**
    - Suggested edits to wording of this recommendation and actions---
    - Would Gov's office want to change wording- "Provided PGISC with adequate funds" - money would have to go to Bureau of Plant Industry (or Penn State, other entities?)
    - Reword this – PGISC should collaborate with research groups, educational institutions, and SEEK
    - Maybe remove the first bit of the action and just start with "support studies and analyses"

Recommendation: *Conduct outreach and education on the need and benefit of long-term management of invasive species*.

- **Proposed Implementation (requires funding):**
    - Have a person who is responsible for PGISC outreach and education opportunities, creating material
    - Create a website that multiple agencies can maintain for the outreach material, and code links to direct folks to identification/treatment info- 'one stop shop', maybe just a clearinghouse that links to the agency sites? (PAInvasiveSpecies.gov)(?)

- **Proposed Implementation (other):**
    - Continue to support PA Native Species Day, PA Invasive Replace-ive (could also do with more funding)
    - Create standardized BOLO kiosks for use across the state (roadsides, state forest lands, state parks, etc.) for high priority species such as wavyleaf basketgrass, Asian longhorned beetle, etc.)
    - Create a logo to brand PGISC

- Create a library of social media posts, before/after photos (LDD mortality, meadow rehabilitations, etc.) to get a number of useful resources for education/engagement; have them be easily accessible (i.e., we know spongy moth is on the increase, we can look back to all our previous public pieces and pull one of them out for social media. Or, it's May- what invasive plants have we highlighted? Or, we want to show impacts of invasive species- show LDD mortality pictures/metrics)
- Provide geographic information on where long-term management is going on in the landscape (e.g., let Allegheny National Forest folks know that buckthorn is an issue in that area and how they can join the efforts)

- **Discussion:**
  - Suggested edits to wording of this recommendation and actions---
  - Wording- maybe a bit more actionable? Not just 'increase resources', but what specifically?
  - Reframe- protect areas that still aren't invaded/impacted, work being done in landscape focus areas (i.e., buckthorn, specific waterbodies for aquatics)

Recommendation: *Increase staff capacity and funding dedicated to long-term management of invasive species in Pennsylvania*.

- **Proposed Implementation (requires funding):**
  - More support for PA Outdoor Corps (funding)- sell it as building engagement, youth outreach/investments, apprenticeships

- **Proposed Implementation (other):**
  - Examine ways to explore public-private partnerships (Eve)- entities and foundations to help support long-term management

- **Discussion:**
  - Suggested edits to wording of this recommendation and actions--
  - Wording- we are not supposed to ask for money, but we should probably keep it in. So maybe phrase it as "PGISC/agencies should explore opportunities to create conservation corps/outdoor corps to help with staff capacity" instead of just asking for funding?

- Jeff still thinks we should move away from “The Legislature should provide” and instead have a more specific action on build staff capacity and funds (change to- “Encourage agencies to build staff capacity and funds”)

Breakout group facilitators provided a summary of their respective group’s discussion to the whole Council and its stakeholders following the conclusion of the breakout sessions.

Public Comment Period

April Moore (Forest Service) thanked everybody for the work Council members and stakeholders are involved in. Sometimes you feel alone when you're the only person at an agency that's focused on invasive species, but the community is large. --Kris thanked April for her words of encouragement.

Concluding Remarks & Adjourn

Frank Schneider (PDA) thanked everyone for participating in today's meeting, commenting on the great updates shared, and that overall, the meeting was very productive. The breakout groups also went very well, remarking that smaller groups facilitated better discussion.
Frank thanked everyone for the work they are doing in their respective agencies and organizations, and for serving on this Council. It's appreciated.

MOTION: Gregg Robertson (PLNA) moved to adjourn the meeting. Amy Jewitt (WPC) seconded the motion. **Meeting adjourned.**

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Amy Jewitt, Senior Coordinator, Pennsylvania iMapInvasives Program, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy and Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program.

Questions or concerns regarding these minutes should be submitted to Kris Abell (krabell@pa.gov), Council Coordinator. If you are a member of the public and wish to attend the next PGISC meeting, please contact Kris for more information on the meeting date, time, and location.